

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 127550  
ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-11 IO-13 ISO-00  
SIG-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00  
INRE-00 MCT-01 HA-05 AID-05 CCO-00 FBOE-00 OC-06  
OPR-02 USSS-00 CA-01 A-01 SCS-06 OMB-01 SY-05  
TRSE-00 MCE-00 ACDA-12 /152 R

DRAFTED BY STF:RLKATES:LAR  
APPROVED BY STF:WLSWING  
S/S-O:TGMARTIN

-----030549 190537Z /23

O 190550Z MAY 78 ZFF4  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI NIACT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0338  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN IMMEDIATE  
CINCLANT NORFOLK IMMEDIATE  
CINCUSAFE WIESBADEN IMMEDIATE  
DIA WASHCE IMMEDIATE  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HAWAII IMMEDIATE 0338  
CINCMAC SCOTT AFB IMMEDIATE  
JCS WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0296  
SAC OFFUTT NEBRASKA IMMEDIATE  
REDCOM MCDILL AFB FLORIDA IMMEDIATE  
COMJTF7A FORT BRAGG IMMEDIATE  
USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE  
USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRAZZAVILLE IMMEDIATE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 127550

USINT HAVANA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY CAIRO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY NIAMEY IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LOME IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BANGUI IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 127550

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, PINS, AEMP, CG

SUBJECT: SHABA SITREP NO. 8: 2200 HOURS GMT MAY 18

1. MILITARY SITUATION: FIVE ZAIRIAN ARMED FORCES (FAZ)  
COMPANIES FROM THE LUBAMBASHI/LIKASI AREA HAVE NOW CROSSED  
AND SECURED THE BRIDGE ACROSS THE LUALABA RIVER 25 KILO-  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 127550

METERS EAST OF KOLWEZI AND ARE PROCEEDING TOWARD THE AIR-  
PORT SOUTHEAST OF KOLWEZI. HEAVY FIGHTING WAS REPORTED  
CONTINUING IN KOLWEZI ON MAY 18. REPORTS INDICATE THAT  
THE REBELS APPEAR TO BE MORE DISORGANIZED EACH DAY AND  
THAT RANDOM FIRING OF WEAPONS IS INCREASING. PRESIDENT  
MOBUTU REPORTEDLY VISITED KOLWEZI ON THE AFTERNOON OF MAY  
18, ACCOMPANIED BY A GROUP OF JOURNALISTS.

2. STATUS OF AMERICAN CITIZENS: CONCERN IS GROWING FOR  
THE WELL-BEING OF THIRD COUNTRY NATIONALS IN KOLWEZI. ALL  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS WITH EXPATRIATES IN THE TOWN HAVE CEAS-  
ED, AND THERE ARE REPORTS THAT A NUMBER OF EXPATRIATES  
KILLED MAY NOW BE HIGHER THAN 10 (ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NO IN-  
DICATION THAT THIS INCLUDES ANY AMERICANS). THE NUMBER  
OF AMERICANS KNOWN TO BE IN KOLWEZI NOW STANDS AT 14,  
INCLUDING 4 MORRISON-KNUDSEN PERSONNEL, 8 MISSIONARIES,  
ONE GECAMINES EMPLOYEE, AND ONE TOURIST.

FRENCH AND BELGIAN TROOPS ARE NOW BEING AIRLIFTED TO  
ZAIRE, TO BE POSITIONED FOR AN ASSAULT ON KOLWEZI IN OR-  
DER TO EVACUATE THE MORE THAN 3000 EXPATRIATES (PRIMARILY  
2800 BELGIANS AND 400 FRENCH, AS WELL AS THE 14 AMERICANS

AND A FEW OTHERS). THE U.S. IS AIRLIFTING FUEL TO KAMINA AIR BASE, ABOUT 130 MILES NORTH OF KOLWEZI, IN SUPPORT OF THE BELGIANS, AND IS PROVIDING AIRLIFT SUPPORT FOR FRENCH TROOPS. BELGIAN AND FRENCH FORCES WILL PROBABLY CONCENTRATE THEIR EFFORTS IN THE NORTHEASTERN SECTOR OF THE CITY, WHERE MOST EXPATRIATES ARE LOCATED, WHILE THE FAZ AND OTHER AFRICAN FORCES CONCENTRATE ON THE OTHER SECTORS.

WITH THE SIGNING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION ON MAY 18 THAT FMS SUPPORT IS IN THE U.S. NATIONAL INTEREST, AS WELL AS ZAIRE'S APPARENT SETTLING OF ITS ARREARAGES FROM PAST FMS PROGRAMS, THE WAY IS NOW CLEAR FOR THE U.S. TO PROVIDE THE FAZ WITH THE ASSISTANCE -- E.G., AIRCRAFT  
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 127550

SPARES, COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, FUEL -- REQUESTED BY MOBUTU. VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SITREP, INVASIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE127550  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RLKATES:LAR  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780210-0728  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780539/aaaabgvx.tel  
**Line Count:** 138  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** c27d179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN AF  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 apr 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2633183  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SHABA SITREP NO. 8: 2200 HOURS GMT MAY 18  
**TAGS:** MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG  
**To:** KINSHASA LUBUMBASHI MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/c27d179a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014